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## Editorial

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In this latest issue of the *Journal of Community Archaeology and Heritage*, we see four diverse papers from three different continents, which broadly fall into two distinct categories. First, two papers from the USA describe the impact and development of community-focused archaeology initiatives in different parts of the country. Kelley Berliner and Michael Nassaney combine historical and contemporary reflections to explain the impact of continued public engagement through the Fort St. Joseph Archaeological Project in Western Michigan, USA. With a decade of activity to draw upon, as well as their own direct experiences and observations, they offer an important insight into the ways in which such a project can be viewed and perceived by different interest groups, and the impact this has had on its evolution.

Similarly, and with an even longer history to draw upon, Douglas Appler presents a retrospective look at the development of the Alexandria Archaeological Commission in Virginia, one of the longest-running examples of collaboration in archaeology between a local community and local governing authorities in the USA. As is common with many community-focused archaeological initiatives, on whatever scale they occur, it becomes apparent from Appler's paper that specific individuals at particular times have had a profound impact on the success and longevity of the Commission.

The Commission is also notable in that it operates within the structures of local government, and was one of the first in the USA to do so. Although writing about different parts of the world, and about quite different examples of cultural heritage, both Katarzyna Jarosz, and Benjamin Saccaggi and Terblanche Delpont present papers which are very much situated in activist standpoints. Jarosz documents and reflects upon the power of the online community, through social media, in coordinating public protest against a major mining initiative which threatened the ancient site of Rosia Montana<sup>3</sup> in Romania. This activism – in which Jarosz was both participant and observer – led to demonstrations not only across Romania itself but at a global level, drawing parallels with other activist movements such as Occupy Wall Street. Meanwhile, Saccaggi and Delpont explain how what started off as a surveying exercise for their students led to deep involvement with occupation of a different kind, as the academics engaged more and more with both past and present residents of the former fort and then leprosy hospital at Westfort, Pretoria, South Africa. Like Jarosz, they found that the lines between participant and observer were blurred, as they began to work alongside the local community in order to establish the still-unclear future of the site.

Our Reflections Article also presents a European perspective, as Astrid Ka hler, a freelance writer based in Norway, reflects upon her experience of community archaeology during a visit to Holt in Northeast Wales in 2013. She joined a garden dig organized by Holt Local History Society, and as she notes in her article, she experienced something she had never before seen in her native Norway.

Our Reviews are of a book and an exhibition, again from different parts of the world and on quite different themes. Neil Richardson of the Huddersfield and District Archaeological Society, UK, offers a review of *Richard III, The King Under the Car Park*, the popular publication documenting the remarkable and high profile discovery and subsequent analysis of the remains of King Richard III in Leicester, England, in 2012. Although the archaeological project itself was not community-driven, it did generate massive interest from communities world-wide, and the review here was written by an active member of one of the more established voluntary archaeological societies in Britain. The book itself is a good example of popular writing about archaeology that should be of interest to all our readers.

Barbara Voss, of Stanford University USA, describes *There Was A Chinatown Here: Objects and Stories from Downtown San Jose*, a digital exhibition involving the Chinese American Historical Museum and the Market

Street Chinatown Archaeology Project, in historic Santa Clara County, California, USA. While not a traditional review, in that Voss was herself part of the project, her overview provides a useful 'insider's' perspective on the planning and execution of this exhibition.

As always, we hope our readers will find this issue both enlightening and thought-provoking, and we look forward to keeping the conversation open!